compatible with the policy changes, and to suggest steps to reduce delays in grant/renewal of Prospecting licences/Mining Leases. The Committee is also to consider and suggest further delegation of powers to the State Governments regarding grant/renewal of Prospecting Licence/Mining Lease and measures to prevent illegal mining. The Committee is expected to submit its report as early as possible.

Lignite Deposits in Gujarat

1600. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geological Survey of India, (GSI) have located huge deposits of lignite in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) other activities under operation of GSI for mineral exploration in Gujarat at present with details thereof; and

(d) whether GSI propose to step up its operations in Gujarat in 1997-98, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of estimated reserves of lignite established by GSI in Gujarat are as Under:—

District	Area	Reserves (in million tonnes)
Kutch	Mudia	6.6
	Pranpur	9.7
	Fularadam	1.1
Bharuch	Rajpardivastan	40

(c) The other activities on mineral investigations under operation in Gujarat at present (during Field Season 1996-97) include:

i) Synthesis of geological, structural and remote sensing data of Champaner Fold belt in parts of Eastern Gujarat for prognosis of basemetal prospecting.

ii) Geochemical prospecting for basemetal and associated mineralisation in parts of Banaskantha district.

iii) Specialised thematic survey of Aravalli Super group to locate Phosphorite occurrences, if any, in the Delomitic limestone and Cherty quartzite Important mineral resources established in the State of Gujarat are as follows (as on 1.4.90)

Bauxite	107.74	million	tonnes	
China Clay	25.70	"	"	(as on 1.4.93)
Copper Ore	8.124	"	"	
Dolomite	681.63	"	"	
Gypsum	9.958	"	"	
Lead-Zine	7.876	""		(as on 1.4.93)
Limestone	8554.66	"	"	"
Manganese	1.427	"	"	"
Quartz &Silica sand	35.471	"	"	"

(d) The investigation for lignite will continue under promotional drilling programme during Field Season 1996-97. A new programme by way of reconnoitory survey and scout drilling in the area from North of Rajpardi to Dakor in Bharuch-Vadodara-Khera Districts has been initiated during Field Season 1996-97 and the programme will continue in 1997-98. The work programme pertaining to Field Season 1997-98 for mineral investigation has not been formulated.

नई इस्पात परियोजनाओं में राज्य सरकार की भागीदारी

1601. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी:** क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार नई इस्पात परियोजनाओं में राज्य सरकारों की भागीदारी पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) क्या ऐसी कोई योजना बनायी गयी है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इस संबंध में राज्य सरकारों से सुझाव आमंत्रित किए हैं;

(घ) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि

कुछ राज्यों में विशेषतः इस्पात संयंत्र स्थापित करने की दिशा में कुछ हद तक उनकी उपेक्षा की गई है, और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

इस्पात मंत्री तथा खान मंत्री (श्री बीरेन्द्र प्रसाद बैश्य): (क) और (ख) जुलाई, 1991 में घोषित नयी औद्योगिक नीति के तहत् "लोहा और इस्पात उद्योग" को स्थान संबंधी कतिपय प्रतिबंधों को छोड़कर अनिवार्य लाइसेंसिंग से छूट दे दी गयी है। इस नीति की शर्तों के अनुसार औद्योगिक लाइसेंस के लिए केन्द्र सरकार की मंजूरी तभी आवश्यक होती है जबकि प्रस्तावित परियोजना 1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार 10 लाख से अधिक की आबादी वाले शहर की मानक नगरीय क्षेत्र की परिसीमाओं की परिरेखा से 25 कि०मी० के भीतर स्थापित करने का प्रस्तव हो और यह स्थान 25 जुलाई, 1991 से पूर्व राज्य सरकार द्वारा औद्योगिक क्षेत्र के रूप में घोषित क्षेत्रों में न हो। तथापि, इस्पात संयंत्रों की स्थापना हेतु भूमि, जल और विद्युत उपलब्ध करवाने के लिए राज्य सरकारों की सक्रिय सहभागिता आवश्यक है।

(ग) से (ङ) उपर्युक्त (क) और (ख) को ध्यान में रखते हुए ये प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Proposals to Increase output of Steel

1602. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the output of steel in 1995-96;

(b) whether the Goverment propose to set up more primary and secondary steel producing units to increase output of steel;

(c) the long term plan drawn up to expand steel industry in remote and backward areas; and

(d) the impact of the sharp reduction in import duties in the 1996-97 budget on the producers of stainless steel and alloy steel?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) The production of finished steel during 1995-96 has been reported as 21.4 million tonnes.

(b) and (c) Under the new industrial policy announced in July, 1991, 'iron and steel industry' has been exempted from the purview of compulsory licensing, save for certain locational restrictions. Thus, an entrepreneur is free to set up steel processing units at any location based on commercial judgement.

(d) In 1996-97 budget, duties on stainless steel semis viz. billets, blooms, ingots and other primary forms was initiallly brought down from 30% to 20% but restored to 30% As such, there was no adverse impact on alloy steel industry. Duties on stainless steel slabs was reduced from 40% to 20%, and on stainless steel scrap, from 20% to 10% both these measures would have benefitted the stainless steel industry.

Metal Scrap Generated by Public Sector Undertakings

1603. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to State:

(a) the total volume of scrap generated by the public sector undertakings annually in our country;

(b) in what manner this scrap is disposed of;

(c) whether the entire volume is disposed of through the Metal Scrap Trading Corporation Ltd. or otherwise; and

(d) the steps to be taken to make the efficient use of scrap?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) and (b) The work "scrap" has a wide connotation and includes various types of scrap, both metallic and non-metallic. Scrap is generated by various public sector undertakings (PSUs) belonging to heterogeneous industries and it would be unrealistic to state any possible quantum in this regard. Scrap is disposed of